1d PLATES - PERFIN I&R/M   Arthur Smith.

A study of a number of 'seconds' of die I&R/M (I & R Morley, London) shows that the plate numbers are as follows:-

Complete Die - Cat.No.2107.04:-

113, 116, 118, 122, 123, 131, 141 and 143.

Die No.2107.06 - two holes less than 2107.04:-

161, 162, 163, 169, 170, 171, 173, 174, 175, 177, 178, 181, 182, 184, 195, 196, 198, 199, 200, 202. and 218.

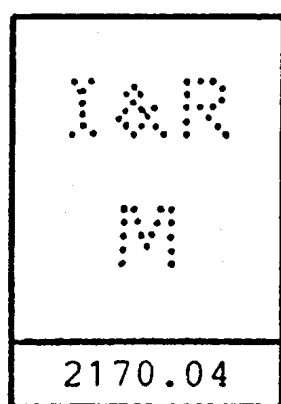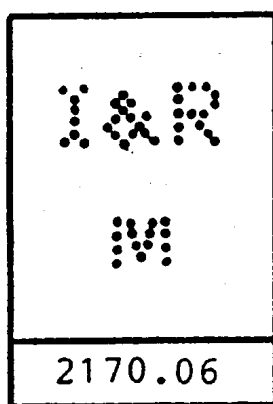All are 2107.04 or 2107.06: the latter meets the requirements of .04 but with two holes missing.
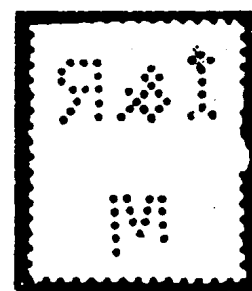

Fig.1.   Fig.2.   Fig.3.

It will be noted that those of the die 2107.04 (Fig. l) have plate numbers 113 to 143 while those of number 2107.06 (Fig.2) have plate numbers 161 to 218.

I have two other stamps with the die as .06 but have one hole only missing (Fig.3). The plate numbers are 119 and 152 which fit into those of the .04 die quoted above and before the start of the plate numbers of die .06.

Apart from having heavy pronounced holes in .06 and very slight variations in dimensions from .04, it would appear that .06 is .04 with two holes missing. The two copies with a single hole missing support this assumption.

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Roy Gault adds two paragraphs to this research. He has one copy of .04 - plate 134 - and one copy of the Fig.3 variety on plate 163. All the rest of his dies are the .06 in the plate range 159 to 222. However he does have a plate 122 which shows the 15 pin M.

From the line Engraved survey, Roy has recorded 65 plates with the 17 pin 'M' (plates 102-216), and 100 plates with the 15 pin 'M' (plates 102-224). The perfin is often low on the stamp which can produce the illusion of a 15 pin 'M'. This might explain why so many low plate numbers were reported with 15 pin 'M's'. The only real trend he noted was a tendency for the top of the ampersand to be tall and thin on the 17 pin dies and more squat on the 15 pin dies. He is sure the die wpuld have been multi head, and perhaps more than one die would have been involved. All the postmarks noted for both dies are London Chief Office diamond numerals

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